

Ministry of the Environment

Hon. Keith C. Norton, Q.C.,

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about pesticides

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The Weed Control Act, 1970

This Act, outlines the Provincial Regulations with regard to weed control throughout the Province. It is enforced by the Minister of Agriculture and Food through County and District Weed Inspectors. Copies of the Act are obtainable from local offices of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food or the local Weed Inspector. Contact your County or Township Office to obtain the name of your local weed inspector.

The Act lists 23 weeds which have been designated as noxious because of their impact on agricultural or horticultural production, human health, and/or the difficulty with which they can be controlled. Moreover, where the council of municipality has appointed a Municipal Weed Inspector, it may designate, by by-law, any plant that is not a noxious weed under the Act as a local weed. These are regarded as noxious weeds within the area covered by the by-law.

Noxious weeds have to be destroyed by the person residing on the land upon which they are growing. In cases of non-compliance the Weed Inspector may have the noxious weeds destroyed and send the bill for the cost of the work to the owner and possessor of the land. The same regulations apply to noxious weed seeds, and consequently are of importance to the owner or operator of a grain elevator, flour mill or seed-cleaning plant.

Exceptions are made where noxious weeds or weed seeds are so far away from any place used for agriculture or horticulture that they can have no material effect on the agricultural or horticultural use of such a place.

The following is a list of weeds designated as noxious under the Act:

- 1. Bull thistle
- 2. Canada thistle
- unicory
- Common barberry
- 5. Common or European buckthorn
- Dodder
- 7. Field bindweed
- Goat's-beard
- Johnson grass
- 10. Milkweed
- 11. Nodding thistle
- 12. Poison ivy
- 13. Ragweed
- 14. Russian knapweed
- 15. Russian thistle
- Scotch thistle
- 17. Perennial and annual Sow-thistle
- 18. Cypress spurge
- 19. Leafy spurge
- 20. Tuberous vetchling
- 21. Wild carrot
- 22. Wild garlic
- 23. Yellow rocket



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